Guide to First-Year Musicianship Transfer Exams

An Aural Training Exam and Part I below are administered during orientation. The other exams are taken separately when the student is prepared.

I. Complete a figured bass in four parts (SATB) – functional harmony with secondary dominants and diminished sevenths.

II. Baroque Period:

Prominent works by Monteverdi, Schutz, Handel, Vivaldi and J. S. Bach Sequence of movements in a dance suite

Prominent terms such as passacaglia, gigue, ritornello etc. – match term with given definition.

Specifics about the order and nature of pieces in J. S. Bach's WTC Analysis of beginning portion of one fugue from WTC

III. Classic Period:

Instrumentation for an orchestral score (instruments, score placement, transposition) Chromatic modulation from same utilizing and augmented sixth Sonata form

Basic biographical info for Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven

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19th Century:

basic info on Berlioz, Chopin, Schumann, Liszt, Wagner Brahms, Mahler analysis of Brahmsian chromatic harmony (with modulations, augmented sixths, etc.)

20th Century:

Knowledge, awareness of major styles and trends: impressionism, primitivism, serialism, neo-classicism, minimalism...

Alternative scales (octatonic, etc.)

Basics of 12-tone method

Basic set theory (0, 1, 4)

Middle Ages and Renaissance:

The test will focus on major composers, types of works, and significant terms associated with music of the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

Ordinary and Proper of the Mass Offices (Hours) church modes melismatic, syllabic types of organum Leonin, Perotin cantus firmus mass parody mass motets madrigals Burgundian/Flemish composers Italian madrigalists English madrigalists Spanish composers point of imitation